

Indeed, every link in the food supply chain from the farm to the shelf plays a valuable role in delivering a safe product to consumers, and I believe each link requires flexibility in order to continue to provide high-quality, competitively priced goods to American consumers. A dutiful producer should expect unwarranted government intrusion no more than a consumer should expect their next meal will make them sick.

The detrimental consequences of an overly onerous federal government and bureaucratic red-tape must be carefully weighed against the need for regulation to ensure safe foods. That being said, H.R. 2749 does attempt to find a balance. As a result, the bill has earned the support of a wide range of stakeholders from farm groups to distributors.

Madam Speaker, while I stress the importance of continued work to improve the bill, I support its passage and urge my colleagues to do the same.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on budget requests, I am submitting the following information regarding budget designations I received as part of H.R. 3326: FY 2010 Defense Appropriations Bill.

(1) Recipient: Robertson Aviation

Budget Designation: \$3,000,000

This designation funds the procurement of internal 200 gallon A-kits and B-kits for installation on UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters operated by the Army National Guard. The Internal Auxiliary Fuel Tank System is a crashworthy, ballistically self-sealing, single-point pressure refuelable internal auxiliary fuel system that has been developed and fielded to H-60 helicopters operated by the U.S. Army Special Operations, the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force Combat Search and Rescue, and certain units of the U.S. Army National Guard. Having this system installed on an H-60 helicopter saves lives by reducing the risk of post crash fires by using military standard crashworthy self sealing bladders integrated into rugged aluminum honeycomb fiberglass outer containers. The resulting system provides ballistic protection for aircrews operating in hostile environments and crashworthy protection for all operations.

(2) Recipient: Southwest Gas Corporation

Budget Designation: \$3,000,000

This funding request is for a Gas Engine Heat Pump (GEDAC) demonstration. GEDAC provides essential peak electric and winter gas load reduction. GEDACs not only provide increased energy efficiency, reduced peak electricity demand, costs savings to the U.S. military, resource reductions (water), and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, it also diversifies energy sources and provides the foundation for grid independence in electricity production. This type of energy independence is invaluable to a military installation, or other facility of national interest, that has to continue to function in the event of a national emergency.

(3) Proposed Recipient: USAF, Air Education and Training Command

Budget Designation: \$1,500,000

This funding request is for Air Education & Training Command (AETC) aircraft range upgrades, specifically Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR) improvement projects. Air Education and Training Command ranges have an unfunded requirement for enhancements to bring them more in line with the operational capabilities of the F-35. The Barry M. Goldwater Range has an identified unfunded requirement to secure a sensor training area and new instrumented target area as well as two ground moving target sets to conduct real world training which mirrors Global War on Terror requirements. Acquisition of ground moving targets, and development of a sensor training area/instrumented target area within the Barry M. Goldwater Tactical Range addresses the operational requirements which F-16 and future pilots (F-35) will face in defeating urban and moving targets with high precision.

(4) Proposed Recipient: Advanced Ceramics

Budget Designation: \$2,000,000

This funding request supports efforts at the U.S. Army Battle Command Battle laboratory at Ft. Huachuca to aggressively pursue experimental deployment efforts and spiral development of sensor and micro-transponder technologies using the Silver Fox and Manta unmanned aerial systems (UAS). Silver Fox and Manta systems' uniquely compact size and stealth technology coupled with the use of advanced sensors and transponders enable them to detect, track, and isolate the smallest enemy movements, including the emplacement of improvised explosive devices (IEDs)—the enemy's weapon of choice against our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND THE "JERSEY BOYS OF THE USCGC MUNRO"

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the United States Coast Guard, and the dedicated service men and women who provide invaluable service to our country. I would especially like to recognize Lieutenant Junior Grade Paul Windt of Paramus, Lieutenant Junior Grade Lee Crusius of Hackensack, Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Daniel McGrath of West Milford, and Electronics Technician 2nd Class Lorin Fisher of Jersey City, whose efforts during a heroic rescue on March 28, 2008 saved the lives of 42 fishermen in the Alaskan Sea. These 4 brave crew members of the Coast Guard Cutter Munro, who go by the name 'The Jersey Boys of the USCGC Munro,' are New Jersey natives and deserve recognition and commendation for their brave and selfless actions that day.

Following in the Coast Guard's rich tradition of service to the American people, these young men, away from their homes and families on Easter morning of 2008, were called to action to rescue the crew of a sinking ship. They battled minus 24-degree weather and a pitching sea which threatened to throw them overboard, while transporting the freezing

crew of the sinking ship aboard the *Munro*. Thanks to the heroics of these brave men, 42 of the 47 fishermen aboard the sinking ship survived that frigid morning in March 2008.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today in commending the thousands of Americans who serve and have served in the United States Coast Guard. They are a great credit to our country.

GENERAL SUPPORT OF VETERAN BILLS FOR WEEK OF JULY 27

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support for the veterans' bills considered on the floor this week. I am very pleased that we have reached a point where we can begin to address the many institutional problems our returning soldiers endure under the Department of Veteran Affairs. While some of these issues can be attributed to administrative deficiencies, many of the department's problems can be helped by increased federal support. These brave men and women deserve our support as they risk their lives in combat. This support should be reflected in appropriate legislative action to ease the burdens they confront upon returning home. While many of us in Congress may disagree on our military strategy and presence in Iraq and Afghanistan, we can all agree that our returning veterans deserve far more than what they have received upon returning home from combat.

Although the Bush Administration initiated the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, it failed to provide for critical veterans' health care benefits and programs that would have helped to reorient our returning troops into society. However, under a new administration and as evidenced by the bills considered this week, Congress is working diligently to introduce and pass critical legislation that will provide our veterans with long overdue support and efficient access to medical resources. Therefore, I am pleased to support all of the veterans' bills on the floor this week, and I commend my colleagues in Congress for their commitment to our nation's troops.

A New York Times report published last fall reported that the nation's newest veterans, particularly the wounded, are paying an exceptionally high price for their service to our country. According to various veterans' advocacy groups, the combination of injury and unemployment coupled with the long VA disability claims process has forced many veterans into foreclosure and other financial hardships. Thus, the legislation on the floor this week will provide for beneficial assistance through federal appropriations, employment and housing resources, and improved veterans' medical insurance programs.

H.R. 3219, the Veterans' Insurance and Health Care Improvements Act of 2009 will expand veterans' insurance and provide much needed healthcare improvements. Additionally, this measure establishes permanent VA authority to provide hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to Vietnam-era herbicide-exposed veterans and Persian Gulf War veterans who have insufficient medical

evidence to establish a service-connected disability. Undoubtedly, many of our current veterans from past and our present international conflicts stand to benefit a great deal from this bill.

In addition, H.R. 1293, the Disabled Veterans Home Improvement and Structural Alteration Grant Increase Act of 2009, will increase the amount of authorized grants the Department of Veterans Affairs can pay for improvements and structural alterations for homes of veterans with service-connected disabilities of 50 percent or more. Accordingly, this bill will provide much needed assistance for veterans to make any necessary improvements they are otherwise unable to fix on their own. As many may suffer from service-connected physical disabilities impeding their normal life activities, this bill would authorize the VA to increase their financial assistance to veterans. This measure will greatly supplement the bill we passed last Congress, the Homes for Heroes Act, H.R. 3329. Where that bill expanded the supply of permanent housing for veterans, H.R. 1293 will provide the grants to make improvements for veterans' current homes.

Moreover, H.R. 2270, the Veterans Non-profit Research and Education Corporations (NREC) Enhancement Act of 2009 will amend federal provisions regarding the establishment at the Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities of nonprofit and research and education corporations (NRECs) to allow an NREC to facilitate the conduct of research or education, or both, at more than one VA medical center. This will greatly benefit the VA so that they can have readily available resources to help them confront challenges facing our veterans.

And H.R. 3155, the Caregiver Assistance and Resource Enhancement Act will provide federal assistance to individuals providing non-institutional extended care to disabled veterans. These valuable services include educational and teaching caring techniques; strategies and skills; nursing care, and mental and health services.

And finally, H.R. 1803, the Veterans Business Center Act of 2009 will amend the Small Business Act to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA) to establish within the SBA a Veterans Business Center program to provide entrepreneurial training and counseling to veterans. This will create yet another resource to benefit our returning veterans who may have trouble finding employment.

Madam Speaker, these are incredibly important bills, providing our veterans with the federal resources so they may have efficient access to much needed medical assistance, job, and housing support. As a strong advocate for veterans' rights, I am pleased to add my voice of support for all of these measures. Moreover, I will be working with my colleagues to make sure we continue to provide the necessary resources towards protecting our veterans' rights and ensuring fair and just access to their rightful benefits.

HONORING BRITTANY LEAP'S
FIGHT AGAINST
NEURODEGENERATION WITH
BRAIN IRON ACCUMULATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bravery and fortitude of a very special and courageous constituent of mine, Brittany Leap; and her mother, Sandy, and father, Richard. In February 2006, Brittany was diagnosed with a debilitating and degenerative disorder—Neurodegeneration with Brain Iron Accumulation (NBIA).

NBIA is a very rare and devastating neurological disorder that only gets worse over time—resulting in constant muscle cramping, an inability to control one's body, difficulty with speech, a loss of peripheral vision, and even blindness. No cure or specific means of treatment currently exists for NBIA, and scientists are still baffled by the factors that influence the disease.

Imagine waking up one morning having lost the ability to walk, or talk, or even eat. In Brittany's case, however, this is no dream. This is a very real challenge that Brittany faces every day of her life. To make matters worse, one of the few laboratories dedicated to researching her disease is at risk of having to close its doors because of a lack of funding; doors that upon closing will forfeit the hope of Brittany, her family, and the thousands of other people suffering from NBIA, that a cure may one day be realized.

Brittany is determined to continue fighting this disease and the potentially devastating consequences of what will happen if the research to develop a cure is suspended. She is unwavering in her pursuit to raise the funds necessary to keep hope alive, not only for her, but for everyone else with NBIA. Brittany has taken it upon herself, with the help of her loving parents—and so many others across this great nation—to raise \$250,000 by year's end to keep the search for a cure alive.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Brittany and her family and all others with NBIA our heartfelt regards for their efforts to bring an end to this devastating illness, and I ask they give their support in any way possible to help Brittany in her efforts. I am inspired by Brittany's determination and I am honored to bring her story to the floor of this Chamber.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I recently submitted a member request declaration for the record. In that declaration, I stated that my requests were in H.R. 2647. It should have read that these requests were in H.R. 3326 as noted below.

Requesting Member: Representative DOUG LAMBORN, CO-05

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: RDTE Navy, Line 27, PE 0603216N

Legal Name of the Requesting Entity: Global Near Space Services

Legal Address of the Requesting Entity: 8610 Explorer Dr, Ste 140, Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Description of the Request: Requesting \$6 million funding for the Lighter-Than-Air Stratospheric UAV for Persistent Communications Relay and Surveillance. This project will develop a lighter-than-air, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) that will fly at 85,000 feet for three to four months, providing low cost, persistent surveillance, high bandwidth and over the horizon communications needed to effectively fight terrorism, achieve maritime domain awareness, protect critical infrastructures and secure national borders.

Requesting Member: Representative DOUG LAMBORN, CO-05

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: RDTE Air Force, Line 8, PE 0602201F

Legal Name of the Requesting Entity: Colorado Engineering, Inc

Legal Address of the Requesting Entity: 1310 United Heights, Suite 105 Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Description of the Request: Requesting \$3 million funding for the Unmanned Sense, Track, and Avoid Radar (USTAR) for low rate initial production of an advanced radar system for the Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicle platform to detect and track large and small targets. USTAR will allow the UAV to identify potential collision risks and increase maneuvering capability in controlled airspace and improve operability in adverse weather conditions.

Requesting Member: Representative DOUG LAMBORN, CO-05

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: RDTE Defense-wide, Line 89, PE 0603898C

Legal Name of the Requesting Entity: Not Applicable

Legal Address of the Requesting Entity: Not Applicable

Description of the Request: Requesting \$500,000 funding for an Independent Advisory Group to review Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Education and Training Needs and recommend a BMD education and training solution to include a recommendation of roles and responsibilities, organizational structure, and/or resources and facilities for integrated missile defense training.

NIHI TA HASSO, UNHAPPY
LABOR—A HISTORY OF THE
TIYAN AIRFIELD, GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, on July 21, 2009, our community on Guam marked the 65th anniversary of our liberation from enemy occupation. It was a day of commemoration and celebration as we recalled the sacrifices made for our freedom by our elders who survived this brutal occupation and of the servicemembers who landed on our beaches to liberate us from the oppression of the